The Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB) is responsible for providing centralized hosting services for Michigan’s state agencies, including a variety of mainframes and some 4,000 servers. Since 2004, the State has migrated 36 aging agency-based computer/server rooms and equipment into one of three secure centers. This consolidation has improved the security, reliability, manageability and availability of critical agency applications. It has saved over $19 million and reclaimed 30,000 square feet of office space.

As a result of the consolidation, growing usage of IT services, advances in IT equipment and increased power consumption/cooling requirements, the demand for energy, technology and computer room floor space are outpacing Michigan’s current hosting center capabilities. To this end, the State is pursuing a public-private partnership initiative—referred to as the Great Lakes IT Center (GL-ITC)—to replace two of its existing hosting centers. Key project drivers:

- Improve efficiency
- Maximize energy utilization
- Deliver economic development and support job creation in Michigan
- Promote better government and increased collaboration.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

In lieu of a traditional approach, the State is exploring a public-private partnership, in which it will engage the private sector, as well as local governments and higher education partners, through an innovative process.

Phase I: Request for Information (RFI)

Together with the Department of Treasury’s Office for Public Private Partnerships (PPP), DTMB completed a Request for Information (RFI) with the vendor community. Some 58 responses to the RFI were received, providing valuable information about opportunities for partnership, innovation and project next steps.

Phase II: Technical & Financial Assessments

Based on the information gathered during the RFI, the State is in initiating technical and financial assessments to finalize the following: acceptable detailed and measurable service levels; state versus vendor roles, responsibilities and risks; and detailed technical requirements for the GL-ITC.

Phase III: Procurement

Based on the detailed requirements from Phase II, the State will move forward with a competitive procurement for the data center. For more information on this project, contact DTMB at InsideDTMB@michigan.gov.